



## **KĀPITI CHESS CLUB**

### **2023 AGM Minutes**

Tuesday 7 February 2023

**MEETING STARTED:**

8:00 pm

**PRESENT:**

Andy Hicks, David Scott, Gordon Lyall, Guy Burns, John Whibley, Lars Dobbertin-King, Levi Paxton, Ross Jackson.

**APOLOGIES:**

Andrew Brockway

**ANNUAL REPORT  
AND FINANCIAL REVIEW:**

This year a single jointly prepared annual report reports on the Club's activities in 2022, replacing the separate reports provided in the past by President, Club Captain, and the Treasurer.

This report can be read in full on the Club's website at [Kāpiti Chess Club Annual Report for 2022](#)

**Key points:**

- 2022 was a further year impacted by COVID-19 with the COVID protection framework in place until September, when the mask mandate was removed.
- Reduced membership in Senior Club, with 9 members and average weekly attendance of 7.
- But booming membership in the Junior Club, with numbers doubling over the year to reach 23 members. Junior Club under the organisation and running of Gordon and Andrea Lyall running very successfully.
- Unlike the previous two years, all Senior Club events in 2022 were held, and all played over-the-board. There were no online meetings in 2022.
- Another well-attended and successful Kāpiti Open was run, with a good field of 40 players, and the event returning a profit of \$470.
- A successful third running of the Kāpiti Junior Open was also run, with a field of 44 players and 16 schools. The tournament returned a profit of \$370, and the new venue of Raumati Beach School Hall was also popular.
- A new "Chess in Schools" programme was launched to promote and build on the popularity of club amongst juniors. To date six schools have benefitted with new sets and support for running club clubs in their schools.
- Another successful grant of \$500 from KCC, which was used to support the new Chess in Schools programme.
- Club President Gordon Lyall achieved the title of National Arbiter and also became a certified FIDE Trainer.

- Regular updates and news posted throughout the year on the Club's website and Facebook page, with a noticeable growth in Facebook reach and engagement.
- A strong improvement in the Club's financial position up \$730 (30%) on 2021, helped in large part through the income from junior membership which more than offset the reduced income from lower senior club membership. The year-end cash balance of \$3,192 is at one of the strongest levels it has ever been.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

The following officers were elected for 2023:

President & Treasurer:	Gordon Lyall
Club Captain:	Lars Dobbertin-King
Secretary:	David Scott
Committee:	Ross Jackson:

With David and Gordon to act as backups for Lars as and when needed.

**FEES:**

A proposal was tabled to retain the Senior Club fee schedule from 2022 with no increases.

Members discussed the option of a possible fee reduction for 2023 considering the Club's stronger current financial position. Some discussion was had around the positives and negatives of this.

The positives of using the current financial buffer to promote more adults to the Club through lower fees, were weighed against the possible future impact of hall rental increases, and financial sustainability questions around subsidising losses in this part of the Club with profits from the Junior Club and our open tournaments. Current fees have not increased since 2019, and Senior Club membership may continue to remain low again this year, despite any reductions. It was noted that while the Salvation Army decided not to increase hall rental for us last year (initially a 33% increase was advised), this may not be the case this year. Some thought the current levels were reasonable, when considered on an effective per night basis.

A suggestion was made that some concession to fees could be made contingent to reaching increased membership levels, or for entry to the Kāpiti Rapid. Further suggestions were made around how we might promote alternative income through tournament-based entry for Wellington Club members.

After some discussion it was agreed:

- to retain the 2022 fee structure for 2023.
- to provide free entry to the Kāpiti Open for any fully paid members.

- to extend to Wellington Club members the option to participate in the Kāpiti Club on a per-tournament basis, for those that might prefer this over paying a full annual sub. Details of this TBC.
- that paying on a casual basis – or on per-tournament basis – will not convey any membership benefits. Such players may win tournaments, but the winner of internal tournament trophies remains only available to members. Non-members who are registered with the NZCF remain eligible for rating points.

#### Fee Schedule for 2023

Adults	\$150 pa
Unwaged	\$100 pa
Juniors (under 20 as at 1/1/2022)	\$90 pa
Casuals & Visitors    Adult	\$10 per night
Juniors & Students (including tertiary)	\$5 per night
Junior Club	\$30 per school term \$90 per year

The first two nights are free, and fees remain pro-rated for those joining part way through the year. Fees for playing particular tournaments only TBC. And fully-paid members receive free entry to the Kāpiti Open.

#### 2023 CALENDAR:

The provisional Calendar of events was tabled and discussed.

Members were invited and encouraged to forward ideas for improving our events during the year. One suggestion was to break up any tournament spread over many weeks, with something different in the middle. This was noted.

An exciting addition planned for this year was a recent agreement with the Upper Hutt Club for a home and away match. A date of April 18 has been provisionally agreed for Kāpiti to host Upper Hutt, with a return match in Upper Hutt for later in the year in July or August. Format will be two games (Black and White) of 25m+5s.

In general, members seemed happy with the provisional programme of events, and it was noted the Club will continue with a flexible and adaptive approach to this programme. The current club calendar can be found here:

<https://kapitichess.club/events-and-results/>

#### KĀPITI OPEN & JUNIOR OPEN:

It was agreed to hold the annual Kāpiti Rapid on its usual date in the last weekend in May, i.e. 27 May 2023. The Kāpiti Junior & Schools Chess tournament will run later in the year at a date to be confirmed, but tentatively pencilled for 12 August.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Members shared an open discussion on ideas for the Senior Club, including ideas aimed at growing adult membership.

One idea was to add a new format to our Tuesday nights, a social club hour from 7 pm to 8pm. This slot would allow adults, new to the Club, or casual players, to play in a relaxed and fun environment. The slot would also be open to parents and juniors to extend their playing time and provide the next-level challenge.

The idea aims to recognise a section of the market not well catered to currently, i.e. those adults who aren't necessarily at club strength (the average rating of our Senior Club is over 1700), or who just want to play socially, rather than in the more traditional rated competition-based format in the Senior Club. Memberships costs would be set accordingly low, and the emphasis would be creating a fun and lively environment where anyone can find someone near their ability to play. Its aim being to increase adult membership, and to grow adult participation in club in the region.

After some discussion, the ideas were supported in principle by members, but subject to further analysis of pro's and con's, and further work to develop the concrete details.

**MEETING CLOSED:**

9:15 pm.